IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Duane Allen
Appl. No.	:	09/661540
Filed	:	September 14, 2000
For	:	BIOS LOCK CD-ROM ENCODE/DECODE DRIVER
Group Art Unit	:	2132
Class/Sub-Class	:	713-193000
Examiner	:	Justin T. Darrow

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

_____June 2, 2005_____
(Date)

_____
Eric M. Nelson, Reg. No. 43,829

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing is the Issue Fee for the above-identified application:

(X)   Form PTOL-85.

(X)   Comments on Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, 2 pages.

(X)   Fee Address Indication Form, one page.

(X)   A check in the amount of $1,409 to cover the issue fee, publication fee, and advanced order of copies is enclosed.

(X)   The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.

(X)   Return prepaid postcard.

Eric M. Nelson
Registration No. 43,829
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(619) 235-8550

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COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's Statement of Reasons to the extent that there is any implication that the patentability of the claims rests on the recitation of a single feature, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's Statement because it is the combination of features that makes the claims patentable. For instance, the Examiner indicated that Claim 1 is allowable because the cited publication "neither teach nor suggest a signature in BIOS circuitry." *Notice of Allowance*, para. 5. Claim 1 recites, "a computer system for controlling the unauthorized use of software, comprising:

> a host processor;
> a removable media reading device coupled to said host processor;
> a non-volatile memory coupled to said host processor, said non-volatile memory including a predetermined location for storing a signature, wherein the non-volatile memory is located in basic input/output system (BIOS) circuitry of said computer system; and

a bootup program stored in said non-volatile memory, said bootup program configured such that upon execution by said host processor the computer system will only be configured to decode encoded media in said removable media reading device if said signature is located in said predetermined location."

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is allowable because the prior art does not teach or suggest the combination of features as recited by this claim. Likewise, the other claims of the present application are also allowable because they each recite a combination of features that are not taught or suggested by the prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: _____   By: _____

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